

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the legacy of Fred Rogers, the man loved by generations of children for his many years as television's "Mr. Rogers." Perhaps no other American has done as much to foster the public's interest in child education and advocacy. He touched the lives of millions of children during his show's 33 seasons on the air, and I feel privileged to honor his life here today. I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for bringing this resolution to the floor.

For 33 years Mr. Rogers invited America into his living room and gave us a tour of his neighborhood. Mr. Rogers infused his world with a creative mixture of fact and fiction, introducing his young viewers to both the real world and a world of make believe. Children saw the insides of bakeries, police stations and glass-blowing factories. Meanwhile, they also learned the values of sharing, compassion, and community from the puppets who became characters in their daily imaginary lives. Fred Rogers showed us that not only is education important; it can also be fun.

On July 9, 2002, President Bush awarded Mr. Rogers the Presidential Medal of Freedom. I call on this body to offer its recognition of the life of a man whose personal mission to improve the lives of children made a difference in all of our lives.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to express my condolences to the family, friends and millions of children who have been influenced by the lovely man, Fred Rogers. He passed away on February 27, 2003, but this in no way means that his teachings and influence will end here.

Fred Rogers, known best as Mr. Rogers, with his safe neighborhood, was instrumental in teaching children for decades. He encouraged learning in innovative way through his TV show. Young children adored this man, his empathic lessons of being nice to your neighbor, and helped children enter school ready to learn and ask questions.

Fred Rogers taught our children how to make this world more compassionate, kind and loving. We remember him as someone who brought out the positive side of television, using it as a vehicle to teach children basic skills.

Mr. Rogers had a worldwide appeal for children, and many of his lessons preached tolerance and acceptance for those around you that may initially appear different. He used gentle themes and a friendly voice to convey his messages. Mr. Rogers had the ability to express his ideas and children were able to act on in their homes and lives. Such an example and contributor to American television deserves our utmost praise. My own children, Erica and Jason, were drawn to Mr. Rogers' knowledge and kindly approach—they learned alot!

I am a proud supporter of House Resolution 111, to honor his legacy. I do offer my most sincere condolences to his wife, Joanne, their two sons and two grandsons. Fred Rogers is certainly worthy of this honor.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, in a world where too often neighbors have become strangers, the meaning of "Love thy neighbor" has dwindled. Fred Rogers never lost that spirit. He accepted us into his neighborhood, into his home, and presented our children with a message that you should be loved for who you are.

"The whole idea," said Mr. Rogers, "is to look at the television camera and present as

much love as you possibly could to a person who needs it."

Fred Rogers recognized the power of television to carry out that message of caring, and become involved in children's broadcasting during its infancy. In the early 1950s he began working in public television at WQED, the first community public television station in the nation. On his lunch breaks, he attended Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and graduated magna cum laude with the Class of 1962 with his Master's in Divinity. The day after graduation he was called to Canada to being MISTEROGERS, the show that would evolve into Mister Rogers' Neighborhood on his return to Pittsburgh a year later.

Mr. Rogers' teaching did not end at the close of each broadcast, or even when he left the studio. Through Family Communications, Inc., Fred Rogers was able to foster girls' involvement in math and science, educate children about the dangers of prejudice, and teach pre-schoolers anger management. Through Safe Havens Training Project, Mr. Rogers was able to educate childcare workers on how to deal with children that witnessed violence, proving them a place where they could feel safe.

Fred Rogers also remained active in the ministry, educating a new generation of ministers at the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary's Summer Youth Institute. Mr. Rogers would spend an afternoon with the teenagers, hoping to impart to them the importance of the doctrine of love and caring that he had made the center of his life.

Mr. Rogers was a teacher, an educator, and a presence in many of our children's lives. The neighborhood will miss him.

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURPHY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 111.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 111.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. OTTER) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Science:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 27, 2003.

Hon. J. Dennis Hastert,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Effective February 27, 2003, I hereby resign from the Committee on Science due to my appointment to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Sincerely,

TIMOTHY BISHOP,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Small Business:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 3, 2003.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Effective March 3, 2003, I hereby resign from the Committee on Small Business due to my appointment to the Committee on Armed Services.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 225-5261.

Sincerely,

TIM RYAN,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H. Res. 106, by the yeas and nays;

H. Con. Res. 54, by the yeas and nays; and

H. Res. 111, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.